

# "Working together to inspire learning and achievement in Highland Communities"



Standards and Quality Report Grantown Primary School  
The Highland Council  
Education, Culture and Sport Service  
Inverness, Nairn, Strathspey and Badenoch Area



Session 2011 / 2012

## Our school vision and values

- We aim to provide a happy, challenging, nurturing and safe environment where all learners can fulfil their potential
- We aim to prepare learners to be confident in their abilities and achievements and to feel included in their school and community
- We endeavour to provide a respectful climate that is trusting and where all learners have faith in and confidence in their individual worth.
- We aim to prepare learners to take on the challenges and opportunities that life has to offer in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### Children's aims

- Respect Oneself
- Respect Others
- Respect the Environment

## Our Key Strengths

- Partnerships with parents, the Parent Council and the community.
- The commitment and teamwork of staff.
- The contribution made by all staff to the pastoral care, health and well-being of pupils.
- Opportunities for pupils to participate in a wide range of outdoor learning experiences

## Our Priorities For Improvement

- To ensure that leadership at all levels throughout the school is effective and that children themselves are given opportunities to undertake lead roles.
- To continue to improve attainment in numeracy and literacy
- To ensure that the pace of pupils' progress is suitably brisk and that teachers' expectations are sufficiently challenging.
- To develop inter-disciplinary learning in accordance with the 7 principles of curriculum design, increasing opportunities for personalisation and choice;
- To confirm understanding of learning intentions and success criteria so that pupils can more readily self assess and develop their ability to think reflectively. In Nursery, this will involve introducing the language and developing the children's understanding of their abilities.
- To address the weaknesses in accommodation and outdoor play areas

## The Core Areas of our Practice

This report summarises the strengths of our school and what needs to improve. We gather this information throughout the year in a variety of ways so we can make sure our report is as accurate as possible. We reflect on the progress we have made with our improvement priorities. We take time to compare what we do with national examples of best practice. We visit each others' classes to share standards in learning and teaching. We look at children and young people's work to see how they are progressing. We make use of a range of data and information including attainment results. We gather the views of children, parents, staff and members of the local community. We use all of this information to arrive at our view of the quality of education we provide.

### Improvements through self-evaluation

#### What we do well:

- Staff are increasingly reflective in their practice and recognise the need for improvements in order to move the School forward
- A shared vision and set of values and aims, as reaffirmed with the arrival of a new Head Teacher, which will serve to drive forward the improvement agenda.

#### What we need to work on:

- Working with partners in the local schools to share standards in Literacy
- Respond to the views of parents, staff and children, when issues are raised through self-evaluation.
- Develop more effective means of communication between all members of school community
- To continue to give opportunities for the children to showcase their learning to their parents through their project work

### Improvements in performance

#### What we do well:

- Opportunities for Active Learning through the experiences provided in the immediate environment of the school and beyond.
- Provision for Music and PE enriches the upper primary curriculum
- Increasingly effective, targeted support by staff within the school enable children with additional support needs to move on from their prior levels of attainment

#### What we need to work on:

- To show improvement in attainment in Numeracy and Literacy
- Develop a robust system of tracking and monitoring achievement and attainment.
- Make more effective use of assessment data

## Learners' experiences

### What we do well:

- Motivation and good levels of behaviour from almost all pupils
- Increasing opportunities for pupils to be actively involved in their learning
- Learners are treated fairly and those, who are at risk of missing out are well supported within the school and beyond

### What we need to work on:

- Focus on pace and challenge, the structure of lessons and open-ended questioning to further deepen learning
- Continue to develop high quality interaction between staff/ pupils so that children know what they are doing well and what they need to do to improve.
- Introducing baseline assessment in Nursery in 2012

## Meeting learning needs

### What we do well:

- An inclusive ethos which aims to meet the needs of the children with additional support needs
- Strong partnership with professional agencies and families
- Flexible use of support staff to meet the emerging needs of pupils

### What we need to work on:

- Ensure that the pace of learning is appropriate for individuals, including our more able pupils.
- Further develop differentiation of learning in Maths and Language to provide support and challenge for all pupils.
- Encourage more opportunities for independent learning.

## The curriculum

### What we do well:

- Good use made of the outdoor learning environment – within and out with school grounds
- There is a strong emphasis on active learning within the curriculum
- Staff are open to developing and refreshing the curriculum in line with recognised good practice within Curriculum for Excellence.

### What we need to work on:

- Priority given to mastering the basic skills in Literacy and Numeracy.
- Further development of the curriculum should be based on effective self-evaluation, making use of expertise within the staff to lead improvements in numeracy and literacy.
- Continue to build effective liaison with local schools to ensure continuity and progression at transition points
- To make more use of the Scottish Schools intranet resources and further develop skills in the use of Interactive Smartboards.